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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

86-1002X/1

MAR 2 5 1986

Honorable John N. McMahon
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr (Mahon:

Thank you for your letter of March 8th in which you informed me of your decision to delete the proposed legislation on unauthorized disclosure from the Administration's 1987 Intelligence Authorization Bill. Your decision allowed us to quickly clear this proposed bill for transmittal to the Congress to support the President's 1987 Budget.

I share your concern regarding the national security threat posed by the unauthorized disclosure of classified information. At the same time, I am aware of the concern of others that careful study of this type of legislation is needed to allow the Administration to reach an informed decision. The Assistant Attorney General, John R. Bolton, stated in the Justice Department's views letter of February 20th on your draft bill that Justice will undertake such a study with a view toward subsequently working with intelligence community representatives to draft an appropriate provision. I suggest that you work directly with Assistant Attorney General Bolton to develop a timetable for completing these efforts preliminary to policy review and decision.

OMB supports and stands ready to assist the process of careful study and drafting of an appropriate statute that can be presented for review to senior administration policy officials. Please keep us advised on progress toward this review and decision.

I am also forwarding a copy of our correspondence to Fred Fielding to ensure that his office is fully aware of your continued concern.

Sincerely yours,

James C. Miller III

c: Fred Fielding
 (with attachment)